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21 April 1960

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

OK
USSR: Marshal Zakharov, commander in chief of Soviet Forces in East Germany since November 1957, informed Allied military representatives in East Germany on 16 April that he had been appointed chief of the general staff of the Soviet Army and Navy and first deputy defense minister. Zakharov thus will be replacing Marshal V. D. Sokolovsky, for whom no new assignment has been announced. Zakharov said that he hoped in his new job to "preside over the dissolution of the Soviet armed forces in concert with his counterparts" in other countries.

Zakharov's replacement in East Germany is his former deputy, Colonel General I. I. Yakubovsky.

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

OK
Malaya: The state of "emergency" declared 12 years ago to combat the Communist rebellion will be officially ended on 31 July. Communist jungle forces, which once numbered over 5,000 well-armed insurgents, have gradually been reduced to an estimated 600 terrorists, most of them now across the border in Thailand.

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IV. WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS

- 25X
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- A. [No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends to initiate hostilities against the continental US or its possession in the immediate future.]
- B. [No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends deliberately to initiate direct military action against US forces abroad, US allies, or areas peripheral to the orbit in the immediate future.]
- C. [The following developments are susceptible of direct exploitation by Soviet/Communist hostile action which could jeopardize the security of the US in the immediate future:]

[None.]

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Soviet Commander in Germany to Be First Deputy Defense Minister

Marshal Zakharov, commander in chief of Soviet Forces in Germany since 22 November 1957, told the chiefs of the Allied liaison missions on 16 April that he was being transferred to the post of chief of the general staff of the Soviet Army and Navy and first deputy defense minister. He said he hoped, in his new capacity, to preside over the dissolution of the Soviet armed forces. To accomplish this, he said, it would be necessary for the West to move closer to recent Soviet disarmament proposals.

He also stated that army officers should not fear the end of their military careers, because their experience would make it easy for them to find jobs in many walks of life. This comment reflects the Soviet Government's continued preoccupation with the problem of the morale of career military personnel threatened by forced retirement.

Zakharov will replace Marshal V. D. Sokolovsky, who at 63 is only one year older than Zakharov himself. Sokolovsky, who also held the post of GSFG commander for several years, has been chief of staff of the Soviet Army and Navy since 1953. Zakharov's promotion, considering his relatively late date of rank as a marshal, is a reflection of satisfaction with the vigorous manner in which he carried out his assignment in Germany. His transfer at this time does not appear to reflect any unusual reshuffling in the Soviet high command.

Zakharov can be expected to maintain cordial relations with Defense Minister Malinovsky, his wartime boss and later his associate in the Far East, and to pursue his new duties with characteristic energy and effectiveness. He is to be succeeded in GSFG by Colonel General I. I. Yakubovsky, his deputy.

II. ASIA-AFRICA

State of "Emergency" in Malaya Scheduled to End 31 July

The Paramount Ruler of Malaya announced on 19 April that the state of "emergency" declared 12 years ago to combat the Communist rebellion will be officially ended on 31 July. The declaration symbolizes a major victory for Prime Minister Abdul Rahman's aggressive anti-Communist policies, which have reduced Communist terrorist strength from about 2,000 at the time Malaya achieved independence in August 1957 to today's total of approximately 600, of whom nearly 500 are across the Malayan border in Thailand. Peak Communist strength was reached in 1949, when there were estimated to be over 5,000 well-armed jungle terrorists.

The ending of the "emergency" will not result in any lessening of military pressure on the remaining terrorists, although they may not be completely eliminated for years because of halfhearted Thai cooperation in the border areas. The Rahman government now is in the process of providing a legal base for continuing its stringent domestic anti-Communist policies after 31 July by incorporating into the constitution certain key anti-Communist measures now contained in the emergency regulations.

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[The declaration ending the "emergency" probably foreshadows increasing attacks by opposition parties on the UK-Malayan defense agreement, which has long been justified by the government as of particular value because of the Communist rebellion. The attacks are likely to center on the treaty provisions which permit the stationing of British Commonwealth troops in the Federation. The government now takes the position that the treaty relates mainly to the defense of the Federation from external aggression and points out the economic advantages of having the Commonwealth bear a large part of Malaya's defense burden.]

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The Vice President

Executive Offices of the White House

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 Scientific Adviser to the President
 Director of the Budget
 Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization
 Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
 Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination
 Chairman, Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities
 Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy
 Executive Secretary, National Security Council

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of State

The Secretary of State
 The Under Secretary of State
 The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
 The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs
 The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Administration
 The Counselor
 Director, International Cooperation Administration
 The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Department of Defense

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 The Deputy Secretary of Defense
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 The Secretary of the Navy
 The Secretary of the Air Force
 The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff
 The Director, The Joint Staff
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